

REMARKS

There are now pending in this application Claims 2, 5, and 8-11, each of which is independent. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 12-14 have been cancelled. No claims have been added.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the above application is respectfully sought.

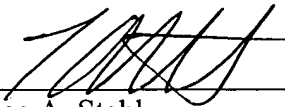
The abstract has been amended to eliminate legal phraseology.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 2, 5, and 8-11 were identified as reciting patentable subject matter and being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Consequently, Applicants have rewritten each of Claims 2, 5, and 8-11 into independent form. As such, each of those claims has now been placed in condition for allowance.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the above application is respectfully sought.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



\_\_\_\_\_  
Lawrence A. Stahl  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 30,110

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200  
LAS:eyw  
DC-MAIN 175082 v1